

**Standard 7-3** The student will demonstrate an understanding of political, social, and economic upheavals that occurred throughout the world during the age of revolution, from 1770 through 1848.

**7-3.6** Compare the emergence of nationalist movements across Europe in the nineteenth century, including the unification of Italy, the unification of Germany, and Napoleon's role in the spreading of nationalism. (H, P, G)

**Taxonomy Level:** B 2 Understand/Conceptual Knowledge

**Previous/future knowledge:**

This is the first time students have been taught about nationalist movements across Europe, including the unification of Italy, the unification of Germany and Napoleon's role in the spreading of nationalism.

In Global Studies, students will explain the causes and effects of political, social, and economic transformation in Europe in the nineteenth century, including the significance of nationalism (GS-4.4).

**It is essential for students to know:**

Following Napoleon's defeat in 1815, the Congress of Vienna reestablished the balance of power to Europe, restored the monarchs removed by Napoleon, and suppressed the democratic movement encouraged by the French Revolution. Despite these moves to return conservatives to power, the **ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity** had spread, feeding the nationalist movements of the 1830s and 1840s.

**Nationalism** is the belief that one's greatest loyalty is to a shared culture (including aspects of common history, language, religion, and nationality) rather than to a leader or border. The two main aspects of nationalists movements in the 1800s were: unification, peoples of common culture from different states were joined together, and separation, groups splintered off from their current government to form one that was more representative of their own interests. Liberals and radicals led the nationalist movements to create nation-states across Europe after 1815.

Nationalist movements across Europe began in the Balkans with the Greeks, who rebelled against the Ottoman Empire beginning in 1821. Supported by Britain, France, and Russia, Greece became an independent nation in 1830. Within the next few years, despite the arrangements of the Congress of Vienna, revolutions occurred in Belgium, Italy, and Russia, though most were crushed by the mid-1830s.

Led by the liberals, revolutions erupted across Europe in 1848. Most were suppressed by conservative groups by 1849, with the exception of the French uprisings. In France, Charles X had attempted to establish an absolute monarchy in France in 1830 with no success. He was replaced by Louis-Philippe, who ruled until 1848 when he lost favor with the people and was overthrown in favor of a republic. Upon establishment of this republic, the radicals were divided

as to what reforms should occur next. This uncertainty allowed the moderates to take control, elect a president and establish a parliamentary system. Louis-Napoleon (Bonaparte's nephew) was elected president. Four years later, Louis-Napoleon took the title of Emperor Napoleon III, taking advantage of the political instability of the country. During his reign, he stabilized and industrialized France.

**In Italy**, Count Camillo di Cavour led the unification of the Northern Italian states. The kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia was the largest and most powerful of the Italian states, and with its liberal constitution, unification under this state appealed to many Italians of neighboring northern states. With French assistance, Cavour won the Austrian-occupied land of northern Italy. At the same time, Giuseppe Garibaldi, leader of the Red Shirts, captured Sicily in the south. Cavour convinced Garibaldi to unite the two sections, in 1860 allowing King Victor Emmanuel II to lead the united Italy with Rome as its capital. Soon thereafter, Venetia and the Papal States were added as well.

The German Confederation was composed of thirty-nine loosely joined states, of which Austria and Prussia were the largest and most powerful. Prussia had a mainly Germanic population, a powerful army, and a liberal constitution, thus giving this state the advantage in the creation of a unified German state. In Prussia, Wilhelm I was in power, supported by the conservative Junkers. Wilhelm appointed Otto von Bismarck, a Junker, as his prime minister. Bismarck took full control of the country, ruling under a policy known as *realpolitik*, meaning “the politics of reality,” a style of power politics that leaves no room for idealism. Stating that the decisions of the day would be decided not by speeches but rather by blood and iron, Bismarck practiced his *realpolitik* theory and embarked on a campaign of German unification. There were three wars of German unification from 1864 to 1871 with Denmark, Austria, and France respectively. In the first, Austria and Prussia formed an alliance to take land from Denmark. Soon thereafter, Bismarck purposefully created border conflicts with Austria to provoke them into declaring war on Prussia, a war known as the Seven Weeks War. In the final move for unification, Bismarck created an outside threat in an attempt to win the support of the remaining German states. After Bismarck changed the wording of the Ems Telegram to make it appear that Wilhelm I had insulted the French ambassador to Prussia, and published this doctored version to media, the French were provoked to declare war, just as Bismarck had hoped. After the defeat of Napoleon III in the Franco-Prussian War, German unification was complete.

**It is not essential for students to know:**

It is not essential for students to know every country involved in the revolutions of 1848. A visual presentation would suffice to give an image that the revolts were, in fact, quite widespread. Likewise, students do not need to know specific battles or leaders (other than those mentioned above) of the unification movements.

**Assessment guidelines:** The objective of this indicator is to **compare** the emergence of nationalist movements across Europe in the nineteenth century. Students should be able to **explain** how and why the unification of Italy, the unification of Germany, and Napoleon's role in the spreading of nationalism contributed to the nationalist movements.